

Docket No.: 4590-358

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of	:
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Jean-Pierre MOY et al.	: Confirmation No. 2893
	:
U.S. Patent Application No. 10/518,082	: Group Art Unit: 2874
	:
Filed: August 9, 2005	: Examiner: Rhonda S. PEACE

For: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR POSITIONING AN OPTICAL COMPONENT BETWEEN TWO OPTICAL FIBRES

AMENDMENT UNDER RULE 116

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This paper is submitted in reply to the Office Action mailed April 24, 2009, which was made Final. Applicants respectfully request that the following amendments **as to form** be entered to place this application in condition for allowance.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented): A process for positioning an optical component between two optical fibers furnished at their end with lenses, comprising the steps of:

drilling a support in such a way as to fix therein a capillary tube whose inside diameter is designed so as to slip an optical fiber thereinto,

fixing the capillary tube in the drilling of the support,

making a blind cut of the support and of the capillary tube, in such a way as to separate the capillary tube into two parts, a first plane face of the cut being perpendicular to a longitudinal axis of the capillary tube such that said two parts are aligned with each other,

positioning the component on the first plane face, and

positioning an optical fiber in each of the parts.

2. (Previously Presented): The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the positioning of the component is carried out by marking the longitudinal axis of the capillary tube on the first plane face of the cut, then by positioning the component with respect to the mark thus defined.

3. (Previously Presented): The process as claimed in claim 2, wherein a second plane face of the cut forms an acute angle with the first plane face of the cut and in that the marking of the longitudinal axis of the capillary tube and the positioning of the component with respect to the mark is done by visual observation using the second plane face of the cut as means of optical feedback.

4. (Previously Presented): The process as claimed in claim 2, wherein the capillary tube is glued to the support in such a way as together to form an optically homogeneous block, and in that the marking of the longitudinal axis of the capillary tube and the positioning of the component with respect to the mark is done by visual observation along the longitudinal axis of the capillary tube.

5. (Previously Presented): The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein each fiber is positioned translationally along the longitudinal axis and rotationally about the longitudinal axis so as to reduce to the maximum the optical losses due to a defect of alignment of the fibers.

6. (Previously Presented): The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the lenses focus a radiation which passes through them onto a Gaussian mode diameter of between 1 and 50 μm .

7-9. (Canceled)

10. (Previously Presented) The process as claimed in claim 2, wherein each fiber is positioned translationally along the longitudinal axis and rotationally about the longitudinal axis so as to reduce to the maximum the optical losses due to a defect of alignment of the fibers.

11. (Previously Presented) The process as claimed in claim 3, wherein each fiber is positioned translationally along the longitudinal axis and rotationally about the longitudinal axis so as to reduce to the maximum the optical losses due to a defect of alignment of the fibers.

12. (Previously Presented): The process as claimed in claim 4, wherein each fiber is positioned translationally along the longitudinal axis and rotationally about the longitudinal axis so as to reduce to the maximum the optical losses due to a defect of alignment of the fibers.

13. (Previously Presented): The process as claimed in claim 2, wherein the lenses focus a radiation which passes through them onto a Gaussian mode diameter of between 1 and 50 μm .

14. (Previously Presented): The process as claimed in claim 3, wherein the lenses focus a radiation which passes through them onto a Gaussian mode diameter of between 1 and 50 μm .

15. (Previously Presented): The process as claimed in claim 4, wherein the lenses focus a radiation which passes through them onto a Gaussian mode diameter of between 1 and 50 μm .

16. (Previously Presented): The process as claimed in claim 5, wherein the lenses focus a radiation which passes through them onto a Gaussian mode diameter of between 1 and 50 μm .

17. (Canceled)

18. (Previously Presented): The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein said two parts are aligned in a straight line.

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested. Entry of the Amendment under Rule 116 is merited as it raises no new issues, requires no further search and places the application in condition for allowance.

Claims 1-6, 10-16 and 18 remain pending in the application. Claims 7-9 and 17 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 1-6, 10-16 and 18 stand allowed.

Applicants respectfully submit that all claims are now in condition for allowance. Early and favorable indication of allowance is courteously solicited.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned, Applicant's attorney of record, to facilitate advancement of the present application.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 07-1337 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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